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STIMULUS WATCH: WEEK 34

\$384,000 in Stimulus Money for a Made-for-Hollywood Teachers' Conference

- ➤ DeKalb County, Georgia, spent \$382,900 in Stimulus money earlier this month to send 200 of its public school employees to Hollywood, California, for 4-day conference hosted by America's Choice, a self-described "solution provider."
- ➤ Dale Davis, the school system's spokesman, indicated that the school system spent \$291,400 in federal taxpayer money on hotels, flights, meals, and incidentals. Which is not surprising considering that the primary hotel for the conference was the Renaissance Hollywood Hotel and Spa, with nightly rates beginning at \$239.
- No jobs seemed to have been created, retained, or saved on a conference short on <u>details</u>. In fact, the DeKalb school system is facing "severe budget problems."
- ➤ Under the House Republican Stimulus Alternative, \$382,900 in taxpayer funds would not be spent to send school employees over 2,000 miles across the country for a Hollywood "solution" conference. Instead, Republicans would have created twice as many jobs at half the cost. To learn how visit: http://republicanwhip.house.gov/Jobs/

Source: http://www.wsbtv.com/news/22420829/detail.html

The Washington Watch Report is available on the House Republican Whip's website: http://republicanwhip.house.gov/blog/wwindex.html

It is updated weekly with new items of wasteful stimulus spending, a look at jobs created by the stimulus.